THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) The length of this road is approximately 85 kms. and is estimated to cost Rs. 77.40 crores at 1994-95 prices.

(c) The detailed project report is being prepared.

(d) The project is likely to take six years time for completion.

Sources of Irrigation in Azamgarh, U.P.

3000. DR. BALIRAM : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is true that the main sources of irrigation in Azamgarh district of Uttar Pradesh are tubewells and canals;

(b) if so. whether it is also a fact that most of the Government tubewells remain out of order and breach in the canal embankments. result in the loss of crop. life and property; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by the Government for digging the canals and to repair the tubewells?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir. Some breaches do occur in canal embankments, but no loss of crop, life and property has been reported.

(c) Silt clearance and digging in the canals are carried out as per requirement and breaches in canal embankments are repaired promptly. The mechanical and electrical defects in tubewells are also attend to promptly.

Visit of Amnesty International to J & K

3001. SHRI PINAKI MISRA : Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether Amnesty International have been invited to send their team to Jammu & Kashmir during or following the recent elections to the Lok Sabha in that State;

(b) if so. the reasons therefor; and

(c) the response of Amnesty International thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

[Translation]

Uttar Pradesh Transport to Private Sector

3002. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT 'BACHDA' : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Uttar Pradesh State Transport Corporation is being wind up and handed over to private sector; and

(b) if so. the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha.

Release of funds for repairs of irrigation canals

3003. SHRI BACHI SINGH RAWAT "BACHDA" : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government of Uttar Pradesh has not released any funds for the annual repairs of irrigation canals in nine hill districts of Kumaon and Garwal in Uttar Pradesh for the last three years;

(b) whether most of the canals have become inoperative for non sanctioning of any funds by the State Government even under special repairs and damages by monsoon (SRDM); and

(c) the steps being taken for smooth running of the canals?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). Irrigation is a State Subject. The Irrigation Projects are planned, funded: implemented and maintained by the State Government out of their own resources. Information on provision of funds and expenditure on maintenance of irrigation projects including canals is not maintained at the Centre.

[English]

Settlement of Accident Claims

3004. SHRI ILIYAS AZMI : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government are aware that the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act with regard to settlement of claims of road accident victims are not being followed by State Transport authorities in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether Government propose to issue necessary guidelines to State Government for the settlement of claims awarded by the Motor Accident Claims Tribunals promptly and to avoid further litigation; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.